

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 HELSIN 01368 041806Z
ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NSCE-00 ACDA-12 DODE-00
CIAE-00 NSAE-00 SSO-00 ICAC-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 PA-01 SP-02 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10
NEA-11 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /104 W
-----019730 041809Z /75

O 041742Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2658

S E C R E T HELSINKI 1368

DEPARTMENT PASS: SECRETARY OF STATE,
BRZEZINSKI - NSC,
WARNKE - ACDA,
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE/BROWN,
GENERAL JONES/JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF/DOD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM
SUBJECT: CAT TALKS - HELSINKI

1. IN LIGHT OF FORTHCOMING SOVIET OPENING STATEMENT,
USDEL PLAN IS TO MOVE IMMEDIATELY TO DISCUSSION OF SPECI-
FIC REGIONAL CASES. PURSUANT TO PRESIDENTIAL GUIDANCE TO
DETERMINE DEGREE OF SOVIET SERIOUSNESS, USDEL PLANS TO DO
TWO THINGS.

FIRST--FOLLOWING PRIVATE DISCUSSION BETWEEN GELB AND
MENDELEVICH, USDEL WILL ANALYZE PAST ARMS TRANSFERS TO
TWO REGIONS--LATIN AMERICA AND THE HORN--IN AN ILLUSTRATIVE
FASHION FOR THE PURPOSE OF DERIVING POSSIBLE COMMON PRINCIPLES
TO GUIDE FUTURE ACTIONS. LATIN AMERICA WILL SERVE TO
ILLUSTRATE: CONCRETENESS OF U.S. RESTRAINT; SERIOUS
ECONOMIC COST TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES OF EXCESSIVE ARMS
PURCHASES (PERU); AND, URGENCY OF ENGAGING EUROPEAN

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 HELSIN 01368 041806Z

COOPERATION. THE HORN WILL BE USED AS AN EXAMPLE TO
DEMONSTRATE: SERIOUS POLITICAL COST TO US-SOVIET RELATIONS
OF UNRESTRAINED TRANSFERS; INABILITY OF SUPPLIERS TO
PREDICT USES TO WHICH THEIR ARMS WILL BE PUT; NEGLIGIBLE
VALUE OF ARMS TRANSFERS TO PURCHASE POLITICAL LEVERAGE
OVER RECIPIENTS; AND OTHER POINTS.

SECOND--GELB WILL NOTIFY MENDELEVICH THAT ON LAST DAY OF THIS ROUND (MAY 8) HE INTENDS TO PROPOSE THREE AREAS FOR NEGOTIATION IN NEXT ROUND: LATIN AMERICA, SOUTH ASIA, AND SOUTHERN AFRICA. REASONS FOR THIS CHOICE ARE AS FOLLOWS: LATIN AMERICA (IN ADDITION TO POINTS CITED ABOVE) BECAUSE OF THE POTENTIAL FOR EARLY RECIPIENT INVOLVEMENT AND THE PEREZ INITIATIVE; SOUTH ASIA BECAUSE OF THE REAL AND PRESENT NATURE OF ARMS COMPETITION, AND YET THE POTENTIAL FOR RESTRAINT; AND SOUTHERN AFRICA BECAUSE OF GREAT POTENTIAL FOR ESCALATION OF TENSION AND CONFLICT. BOTH LATIN AMERICA AND SOUTH ASIA SHOULD SERVE TO ENGAGE EUROPEAN PARTICIPATION IF US-SOVIET TALKS MAKE PROGRESS.

2. SOVDEL TODAY MADE POINT THAT THEY ARE NOT HERE TO AGREE TO US ARMS RESTRAINT POLICY, NO MATTER HOW GOOD IT MAY BE, BUT TO EVOLVE A NEW MUTUAL POLICY. HENCE, USDEL EXPECTS THAT IF SOVIETS AGREE TO BEGIN SPECIFIC REGIONAL TALKS IN THE NEXT ROUND, THEY WILL CHANGE OR ADD TO THIS LIST OF PROPOSED REGIONS.

3. IN ORDER TO DEMONSTRATE OUR SERIOUSNESS, WE PROPOSE TO AGREE TO SOME SOVIET SUGGESTIONS. IN ANY EVENT, SPECIFIC US POSITIONS WILL BE DETERMINED IN INTERSESSIONAL PERIOD IN WASHINGTON. IF YOU HAVE ANY GUIDANCE WOULD APPRECIATE, IF NOT, USDEL WILL PROCEED AS DEEMED APPROPRIATE
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 HELSIN 01368 041806Z

HERE.

RIDGWAY

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INSTRUCTIONS, MEETING DELEGATIONS, ARMS CONTROL MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978HELSIN01368
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780191-0158
Format: TEL
From: HELSINKI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780594/aaaadcgn.tel
Line Count: 97
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 88ed98a4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2795966
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CAT TALKS - HELSINKI
TAGS: PARM, UR, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/88ed98a4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014